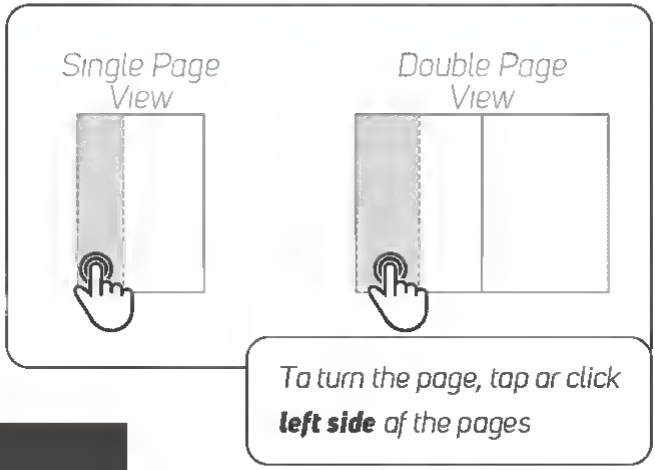
A **COMIC ZENON** Production

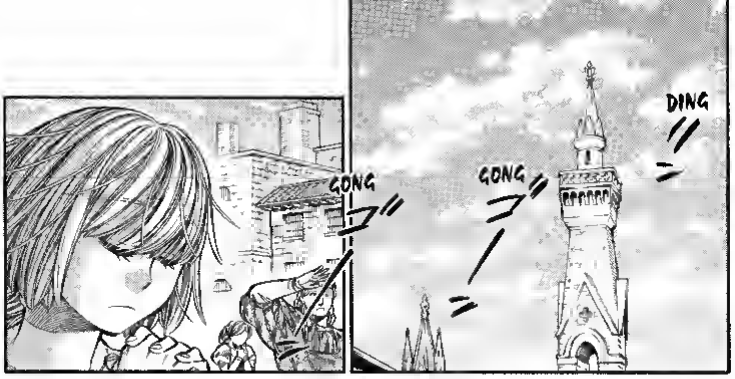
Arte

by KEI OHKUBO

This manga is read in
RIGHT to LEFT
page order



PLEASE TAP
LEFT
TO BEGIN!



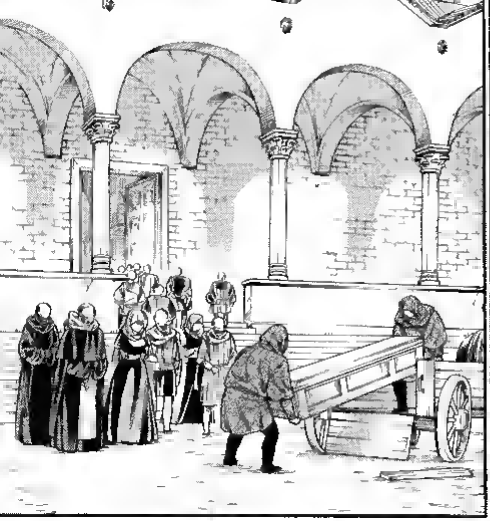
Chapter 13: The Trade Guild Part 1

Enter Angelo, an apprentice from another studio.

ARE YOU ALSO HERE FOR THE FUNERAL?
CIAO
ANGELO!
YES
ARTE!
SAME WITH ME
I HEARD THE DECEASED MASTER WAS A GUILD MEMBER, BUT I'VE NEVER MET HIM
I'M JUST ACCOMPANYING MASTER LEO
WELL, ACTUALLY
BUSTLE
BUSTLE
THE FUNERAL WAS SO SUDDEN, THEY MUST'VE JUST FOLLOWED ALONG WITH THEIR MASTERS
PROBABLY
IS THAT WHY ALL THE APPRENTICES ARE HERE?
YOU'RE RIGHT!
SO THIS'LL BE A GOOD EXPERIENCE
BUT REALLY, IF WE BECOME MASTERS, WE'LL HAVE TO PARTICIPATE IN THESE THINGS TOO

THE LORD IS COMPASSIONATE AND GRACIOUS,
SLOW TO ANGER, ABOUNDING IN LOVE
HE DOES NOT TREAT US AS OUR SINS DESERVE OR REPAY US ACCORDING TO OUR INIQUITIES
HE PASSED AWAY AFTER BEING BEDRIDDEN WITH FEVER LAST MONTH
EVEN HIS FAMILY COULDN'T HAVE PREDICTED THIS...
IT WAS SO SUDDEN
YES

TRADE GUILDS ARE CREATED
THAT'S WHAT THE GUILD IS FOR
WE WILL ALL TAKE ON SOME OF THE BURDEN
THE PROBLEM IS WHAT TO DO WITH HIS FAMILY AND APPRENTICES
ARTISTIC TRADES ALSO HAD THESE GUILDS, AND THE MASTERS PAID MONEY TO THE GUILDS TO DO BUSINESS IN THE CITY
WHEN MASTERS OF THE SAME PROFESSION UNITE, AND FORM A SUPPORT SYSTEM
FROM MERCHANTS AND BLACKSMITHS TO BUTCHERS AND BAKERS, GUILDS EXIST FOR ALL TYPES OF TRADES
IN THESE GUILDS, RULES ARE LAID OUT AND VARIOUS MONETARY AID IS OFFERED
AND FUNERALS FOR GUILD MEMBERS ARE MANDATORY
BUT AS THE ECONOMY OF THE CITY GREW, THIS SYSTEM OF MUTUAL AID BECAME LESS NECESSARY
AND THE GUILDS WERE FADING INTO IRRELE-VANCY



GONG...

WELL
HOW WOULD YOU FEEL ABOUT ANOTHER ONE?
!

LEO
I HEARD
YOU RECENTLY TOOK ON AN APPRENTICE!

I'M SORRY.
I SEE.
WELL, YOU'VE ALWAYS PREFERRED WORKING ALONE.
MY STUDIO IS VERY SMALL, SO I HAVE NO PLANS TO TAKE ON MORE

WE'LL BE ABLE TO SORT EVERY-THING OUT TODAY
WITH ALL THE GUILD MEMBERS THAT GATHERED HERE
I INTEND TO GIVE AS MUCH AS I CAN FINANCIALLY
OH! THAT'LL BE A GREAT HELP
CLAP
HM?
YES
IN RECENT YEARS THE NUMBER OF MEMBERS COMING TO THESE GATHERINGS HAVE INCREASED
IT'S BECAUSE FIRENZE HAS BEEN IN A RECESSION
THESE GUILDS WERE CREATED FOR THE PURPOSE OF HELPING EACH OTHER
EVERYONE'S SUFFERING, SO THEY FEEL INCLINED TO RETURN TO THE OLD WAYS

GRAB
PUSH
WAA
AAAAH!
RUSTLE
RUSTLE
RUSTLE
RUSTLE
HMMM
IT'S SO BORING, A GAME OF CALCIO HAS STARTED
IS THIS OKAY DURING THE FUNERAL?
OH! ARTE YOU'RE HERE!
THE APPEARANCE WAS OF PURE VIOLENCE
EXTREME METHODS OF ATTACK SUCH AS TACKLING OR CHOKING WERE PERMITTED
BUT
CALCIO WAS A SPORT THAT CAN BE CONSIDERED A PREDECESSOR OF FOOTBALL

YOU HAVEN'T BEEN COMING TO THE WORKSHOP LATELY
WHEN YOU COMING BACK?

HELLO EVERYONE!
HEY!
LONG TIME NO SEE!

I'LL BE BACK WHEN THERE ARE SOME NEW PIECES!
THESE PEOPLE WORK IN ANGELO'S WORKSHOP

Ex-cuse me.
Oh, you're here again!
AFTER VISITING THE WORKSHOP A FEW TIMES, I HAVE GOTTEN TO KNOW THE OTHER APPRENTICES
YOU'VE GOT GUTS, FEEL FREE TO COME AGAIN.
BEFORE, I WAS PERMITTED TO SKETCH A SCULPTURE AT MASTER DANELLO'S WORKSHOP.

EVERY-ONE!
YAY! I'M EXCITED!
I'LL COME!

WELL, I'M ALMOST DONE WITH THIS NEW PIECE.
REALLY !!

THE FUNERAL HAS ENDED, BUT THE MASTERS ARE STILL SPEAKING, SO EVERYONE IS TO RETURN TO THEIR WORKSHOPS
WHAT!
REALLY !!?

HM?
A GIRL?

OUTSIDERS AREN'T WELCOME HERE
Well...
I don't look like the norm...
AN OUTSIDER 2
I'M ACTUALLY...

WHO ARE YOU?
WELL
I AM

HM?

SHE'S AN APPRENTICE JUST LIKE ALL OF US
EH
UH2
WHAT?
LIKE I'D BELIEVE THAT!
Uh!
Oh
Um
Um
A GIRL
AH
SO YOU'RE THE
GIRL RUMORED TO BE APPRENTICING UNDER MASTER LEO!!
YES
I AM
I'm sorry!?
FLINCH!
STARE
STARE
STARE
STARE
YOU'RE A WORK-SHOP APPREN-TICE 2
HMM
HMPF

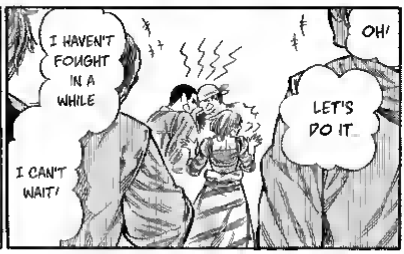
PEOPLE WILL GET THE WRONG IDEA IF THERE'S A GIRL TOGETHER HERE WITH US MEN.
A WOMAN SHOULD KNOW HER PLACE
YOU SHOULD SIT SOMEWHERE APART FROM US
IT HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH YOU.
I SAID IT TO THE GIRL
HUH?
This again?
DON'T SPEAK TO HER THAT WAY.
SLIDE
WHAT DO YOU...
WHA...
WHAT?
IT DOES HAVE TO DO WITH ME

OF COURSE, THIS HAS TO DO WITH ME!
IF THIS GIRL'S AN APPRENTICE, SHE'S ONE OF US.
What you looking at?
WHAT!?
WHAT DID YOU JUST SAY?
!
One of us

SPARK
YOU HAVE A THING FOR THIS GIRL.
OH I SEE HOW IT IS
TSK
JUST CALM DOWN LET'S BE ADULTS
WELL
IRATE
WITH THE GIRL ARE CLOSET QUEENS.
ALL OF YOU
OH I GET IT NOW
NO NOT AT ALL!
LET'S ALL CALM DOWN
IT'S NOT LIKE THAT!
IT'S ON NOW!!
YOU ALL STARTED THIS!!
IT'S YOUR FAULT FOR BEING IN CAHOOTS WITH A GIRL!
Ah
SWEAT
I
YOU'RE TALKING TRASH!!
YOU WANNA MAKE SOMETHING OF IT?
Um
WHAT WAS THAT!?
UM
I

YOU WANNA GO!?
BRING IT!
What? Wait...
WHAT
WHAT'S YOUR PROB-LEM!?
RAGE
ゴゴゴゴ
BOTH OF YOU CALM DOWN
UM...
EX-CUSE
ANGER
ゴゴゴ
TENSION
ゴゴゴ

DO IT! DO IT!
WOW
C'MON
WAIT... THIS
UM?


I HAVEN'T FOUGHT IN A WHILE
I CAN'T WAIT!
OH!
LET'S DO IT

LET'S NOT MAKE THIS A BACKYARD BRAWL
THERE'S A BALL RIGHT HERE
LET THIS DECIDE THE VICTOR

ラおおおおお!
WAAAA
AAAAH!!!!
UM...
DID I...
IS THIS MY FAULT?
ラおおおおお
WOW!
UHH
NO, I DON'T THINK THIS IS YOUR FAULT AT ALL...!?
ST...
URGH!
STOP
URGH!
ラおおおおお
わ——!
SLUG
わあああ!
WAH!

EEEK!!!
EVERY
EVERYONE!! STOP THIS!
!!
AH!
ARTE!
WAIT, NO!! IT'S TOO DANGER-OUS!!
PUSH!
EVERY-ONE!
DON'T FIGHT!!
WAH!
SLAM
URGH!
!
WHAT?
OH!
UM...
WAAA-AAH!!
ARE YOU OKAY!?

KLUNK
!!!
ARTE !!
COLLAPSE
AH!
HEY!! ALL OF YOU THERE!!
!
おーーーーー
YAAAAAH!
YES
ARTE, ARE YOU OKAY!? WAKE UP!

YOU AWFUL PEOPLE ARE RUINING THE MORALS OF THE CITY!
LET GO!
UH OH!
HEY, A FRIAR!
YOU ARE IN FRONT OF A CHURCH!
YOU BLASPHEMING HEATHENS!!
OW OW OW!
CALCIO!
IT'S CALCIO! JUST CALCIO!
WE WERE PRACTICING!!
IS IT OKAY FOR A FRIAR TO BE THIS VIOLENT!!
SHUT UP!
I ONLY MEANT TO TWIST IT A LITTLE. That couldn't of hurt...
OOPS SORRY
NO MATTER HOW GOOD YOU GET AT CALCIO, YOU WILL NEVER BE A NOBLE
*ONLY THE NOBLES WERE ALLOWED TO HAVE OFFICIAL CALCIO MATCHES
HMPF!
STOP WITH THE EXCUSES! THIS IS A FIGHT!

NOW,
LEAVE! GET GOING!
SHEW SHEW
TSK
REPENT AND ATONE FOR YOUR TRESPASSES!
A LITTLE VIOLENCE !?
GOD CAN FORGIVE A LITTLE VIOLENCE TO PUNISH YOU SCOUNDRELS
!
Hm Ugh
HM?
WHAT !?
THAT GIRL IS ALSO A WORKSHOP APPRENTICE!
IT'S NOT LIKE THAT!
DID YOU EVEN GET A GIRL INJURED!?
!

IF YOU DO THIS AGAIN, I WILL PUNISH YOU ALL MYSELF BEFORE GOD PASSES HIS JUDGMENT!!
OUCH...
THUNK
THUNK
THUNK
BEHAVE YOURSELVES, YOU DELINQUENTS!
MORE EXCUSES !!
TSK
STEAMING...
OW...
THIS IS WHY GIRLS...

NO REALLY, I'M FINE!
ARTE, ARE YOU OKAY?
SORRY I WORRIED YOU!
YOU SHOULD LIE DOWN FOR A LITTLE

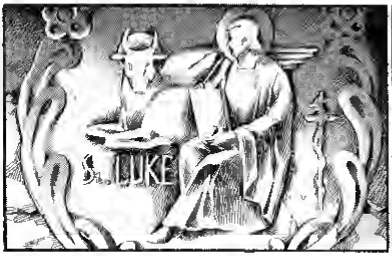
I'M SO EMBAR-RASSED.
I CAN'T BELIEVE I FAINTED!

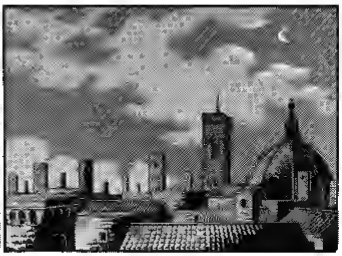
AND THE MASTERS WILL BE BACK SOON!
SO I'VE GOT TO GET BACK TO THE WORKSHOP!

ARTE!

WAIT!
THANKS! SEE YOU!

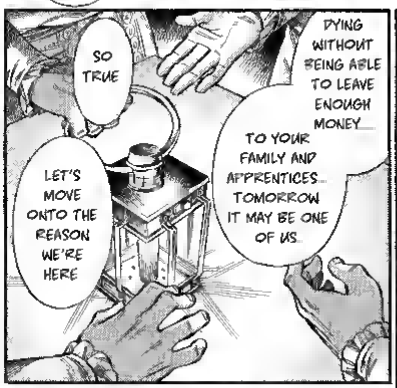
IT WON'T BE LONG...
BEFORE EVERYONE ACCEPTS YOU!
THANKS!
I'LL DO MY BEST!


ST. LUKE

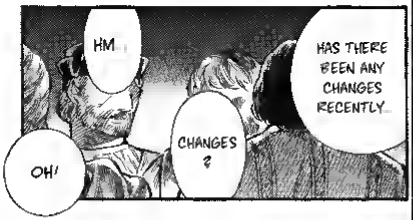


EVERY-ONE IS HERE
SO WE WILL BEGIN THE MEETING

THE PATRON SAINT OF THE ARTS
ST. LUKE

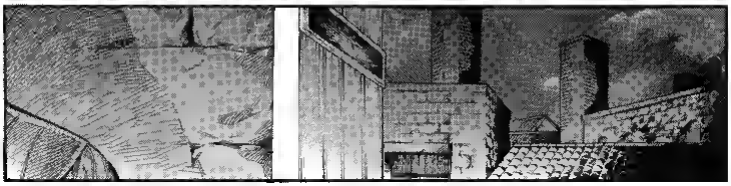

SO TRUE
LET'S MOVE ONTO THE REASON WE'RE HERE
DYING WITHOUT BEING ABLE TO LEAVE ENOUGH MONEY...
TO YOUR FAMILY AND APPRENTICES... TOMORROW IT MAY BE ONE OF US...

THE NUMBER OF ATTENDEES HAVE INCREASED RECENTLY...
I GUESS IT'S ALL THANKS TO THE RECESSION...
NOT A CAUSE TO CELE-BRATE...


HM...
OH!
CHANGES ?
HAS THERE BEEN ANY CHANGES RECENTLY...

LAST YEAR, LEO TOOK ON A GIRL APPRENTICE
A GIRL?
HE DID I THINK HER NAME WAS ARTE
AT THE FUNERAL, THERE WAS A SCUFFLE BECAUSE OF THAT GIRL
I HEARD ABOUT THAT...
AH
I HEARD ABOUT IT AT MY WORKSHOP TOO...
I HEARD MY APPRENTICES SPEAKING OF IT TOO...
HMF!
I THOUGHT IT WAS JUST MY WORKSHOP
BUT...
...
IT DOESN'T SEEM LIKE A BIG DEAL
FRANK-LY,
IN THESE PAST 20 TO 30 YEARS, THE GUILD HAS BEEN NOTHING BUT A PLACE TO REGISTER AND PAY YOUR DUES
BUT THE SITUATION HAS CHANGED
IN THIS RAPIDLY CHANGING CITY OF FIRENZE
THE TIME HAS COME FOR THE GUILD TO REGAIN POWER

THIS GIRL CAUSING CONFLICT AMONGST THE APPRENTICES...
CANNOT BE LEFT ALONE



CLACK
BUSTLE
BUSTLE
CLANK
CLANK

WELCOME HOME MASTER LEO!
WHAT HAPPENED? YOU LEFT SO EARLY THIS MORNING
THUMP
OH!? YOU RAN ERRANDS? I COULD'VE GONE
THE GUILD?
ドカ! STOMP
ドカ! STOMP
I WAS ACTU-ALLY CALLED IN BY THE GUILD HEADS
?
MASTER LEO?
...
...

A FRESCO
...?
EH?
HAVE YOU EVER PAINTED A FRESCO?
ARTE
FRESCO PAINTINGS WERE LARGELY USED TO PAINT WALL MURALS
LIME AND SAND WERE MIXED IN WITH WATER TO CREATE STUCCO TO PASTE ON THE WALL
BEFORE THE STUCCO DRIED, PIGMENT MIXED WITH WATER WOULD BE PAINTED ON
PAINTINGS MADE THIS WAY WERE CHEAP AND LONG LASTING
THIS TECHNIQUE WAS OFTEN USED TO DECORATE LARGE WALL SPACES
WELL...
UM...
I CAN SAY I HAVE, BUT...

I WAS TAUGHT BY MY TUTOR AT HOME...
AND ONLY ON A SMALL SURFACE A FEW TIMES...

SO YOU HAVE SOME KNOWLEDGE ABOUT FRESCOS...
EH?
YES...
SOME...
COME WITH ME ARTE
AH, YES!

CLANK
ガチャ
THUMP
ドサ
CLANK
ガチャ
SPLASH
ジャボン!

OKAY
THESE ARE ALL THE TOOLS NEEDED...

SWISH
SWIP
SWIP
?
UM...
INSIDE OF THE LINES I HAVE DRAWN...
DAB
LAY THE STUCCO
DAB
WHAT?

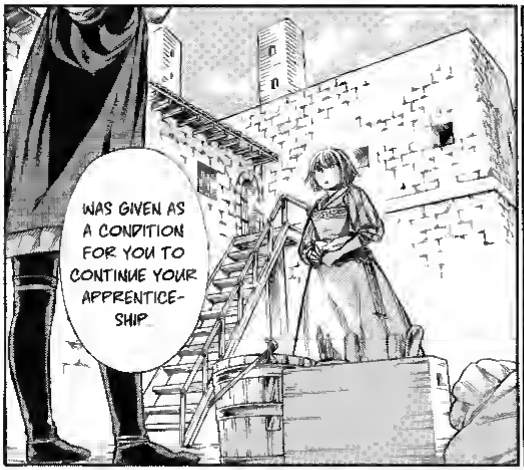
ビク!
FLINCH
HURRY UP!
YES!
UM...
WHAT EXACTLY IS THIS...
MIX THE LIME WITH THE WATER
I HAVE TO ADJUST THE WATER TO THE HUMIDITY
HOW MUCH DO I MIX AGAIN?
CALM DOWN
UM.
UM... UM...
I THINK
ぱっ
WA!

I FINISHED
HOW IS IT?
PHEW
UM...
DOKI DOKI THUMP THUMP
AH
LET'S SEE
FIRST OF ALL...
—
—

SLIDE
ALSO
THE SURFACE ISN'T SMOOTH AT ALL
THE BRUSH WILL GET CAUGHT ON THIS
STAB X 2
THICK
THE THICKNESS OF YOUR STUCCO IS AWFUL
THIS WILL START TO CRACK LATER
STAB
STAB X 4
YOU ARE ALSO TOO SLOW!
THAT IS THE KILLER.
WE HAVE TO START AGAIN WHEN THE STUCCO DRIES BEFORE PAINTING
FLINCH
FLINCH
IT'S ALSO SPILLING OUT OF THE AREA I MARKED
STAB X 3
LOOK CAREFULLY!
DO YOU REALLY HAVE EYES?
OKAY
SLIDE
SLIDE
ARTE
BUT
FROM THIS WE UNDERSTAND YOUR ISSUES
ISSUES?
COLD
きっぱり
YES, PRETTY MUCH
SHAKE
SHAKE
I'M SORRY
SO
COUGH
THAT MEANS IT WAS ALL BAD?
Right?
Blood

FOR THE NEXT 10 DAYS
WORK ON PERFECTING THIS STUCCO
WHAT?
DID YOU RECEIVE A FRESCO JOB!?
NO OUR WORKSHOP DIDN'T ACCEPT IT
I NEVER ACCEPT FRESCO JOBS *
WELL...
THEN... WHY?

*Many workers are needed to complete a fresco



A new danger to Arte's happy apprentice days!?

◆ Ch.13 END ◆